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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
 M. Yokoyama et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP00/05614

International Filing Date: August 22, 2000

Title: Plant Activator

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
 and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

After assigning a serial number to the above-captioned application and before calculating the fee, please undertake the following changes:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims 3, 4 and 6 for the original claims 3, 4 and 6 as follows:

3. (Amended) The plant activator according to claim 1, wherein the C₄-C₂₄ ketol fatty acid contains one to six carbon-carbon double bonds, such that the number of the double bonds does not exceed the number of carbon-carbon bonds in the ketol fatty acid.

4. (Amended) The plant activator according to claim 1, wherein the ketol fatty acid contains 18 carbon atoms, and two carbon-carbon double bonds.